

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.
Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME 8. Part 25. Pp. 335—344

OPINION 308

Designation, under the Plenary Powers, of a type species
in harmony with accustomed usage for *Liparoceras* Hyatt,
1867 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), a genus
based upon a misidentified type species



LONDON :

Printed by Order of the International Trust for
Zoological Nomenclature
and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological
Nomenclature by the International Trust at its Publications Office
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7
1954

Price Five Shillings

(All rights reserved)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 308

A. The Officers of the Commission

Honorary Life President : Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History),
Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*).

President : (Vacant).

Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*).

Secretary : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*).

B. The Members of the Commission

(arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology).

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (*Vice-President*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (28th March 1944).

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*) (23rd April 1944).

Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (*Coulsdon, Surrey, England*) (1st January 1947).

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Békéscsaba, Hungary*) (1st January 1947).

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (1st January 1947).

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947).

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*Eva Peron, F.C.N.G.R., Argentina*) (27th July 1948).

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (*Secretary*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948).

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950).

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950).

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Department of Systematic Zoology, Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950).

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950).

OPINION 308

DESIGNATION, UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, OF A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED USAGE FOR "LIPAROCERAS" HYATT, 1867 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA), A GENUS BASED UPON A MISIDENTIFIED TYPE SPECIES

RULING :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers, (a) all type selections for the genus *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside, and (b) *Liparoceras bronni* Spath, 1938, is hereby designated to be the type species of the foregoing genus.

(2) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 752 : *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867 (gender : neuter) (type species, by designation, under the Plenary Powers, under (1)(b) above : *Liparoceras bronni* Spath, 1938).

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* as Name No. 172 : *bronni* Spath, 1938, as published in the combination *Liparoceras bronni* (specific name of type species, by designation, under the Plenary Powers, under (1)(b) above, of *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867).

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 15th February 1951 Dr. W. J. Arkell (*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*) submitted the following application for the use by the International Commission, under the special procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 158—159), of its Plenary Powers for the purpose of designating a type

species in harmony with accustomed usage for *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), a genus based upon a misidentified type species :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to designate the type species of “*Liparoceras*” Hyatt, 1867, a genus based upon a misidentified type species (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) (Jurassic)

By W. J. ARKELL, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

(*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*)

1. The present application for the use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers to designate, as the type species of *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867 (*Bull. Mus. comp. Zool.* 1 (No. 5) : 83), a species other than that which would be type species under the *Règles*, is submitted under the procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, July, 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 158—159) as that to be followed in the case of genera based upon misidentified type species. The facts of the case are as set forth below.

2. Hyatt (1867 : 83, 84) established the genus *Liparoceras*, in which he placed three nominal species, but for which he did not designate or indicate a type species.

3. One of the originally included species was cited as “*Liparoceras henleyi* Hyatt” in the synonymy of which Hyatt cited the following synonyms :—

Ammonites henleyi Sowerby
Nautilus striatus Reinecke
Ammonites striatus Zieten
Ammonites henleyi Bronn

4. Buckman (1911 : iii) selected as the type species of *Liparoceras* Hyatt what he referred to as “*Ammonites henleyi* Hyatt, *pars* = *A. striatus* Bronn, 1838, pl. xxiii, fig. 7”. Buckman explained that what Bronn, copying Zieten (1830 : pl. v, fig. 6), called “*A. striatus*” was the same species as that cited by Hyatt as “*Ammonites henleyi* Bronn”. In his later editions, Bronn (1851, ed. 3 : 373) referred figure 7 on his plate xxiii to *Ammonites henleyi* Sowerby.

5. Spath (1938 : 43) accepted Buckman’s type selection for *Liparoceras*. He pointed out, however, that the species so selected was still without a valid name. There is no such specific name as *Ammonites striatus* Bronn, 1838, or *Ammonites striatus* Zieten, 1830,

both those authors having misidentified *Nautilus striatus* Reinecke, 1818 (which, in any case, is an invalid junior homonym of *Nautilus striatus* Sowerby (J.), 1817). Similarly, there is no such specific name as *Ammonites henleyi* Hyatt, 1867, Hyatt's use of the trivial name *henleyi* being based upon a misidentification of *Ammonites henleyi* Sowerby (J.), 1817. Spath accordingly published the name *Liparoceras bronni*, basing this nominal species upon a holotype which he selected from the British Museum collection. As Spath did not base *Liparoceras bronni* upon Bronn's figure of his "*Ammonites striatus*"—a course which would have made *Liparoceras bronni* Spath objectively identical with the species figures by Bronn—the trivial name *bronni* Spath is only subjectively applicable to Hyatt's species. There is, however, no doubt as to the identity of the species to which Spath's trivial name *bronni* is applicable; that name is therefore the oldest available name for the species which Hyatt included in the genus *Liparoceras* under the misidentified name *henleyi* and which Buckman later selected as the type species of *Liparoceras*.

6. This is a clear case of a nominal genus based upon a misidentified type species, where the misidentification has been recognised by specialists and where the acceptance as the type species (of *Liparoceras*) of the species to which the name (*Nautilus striatus* Reinecke) cited by the author of the genus (Hyatt) correctly applies would lead to an undesirable change in current nomenclatorial practice. Accordingly, I ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature:—

- (1) under the procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology for determining the type species of a genus based upon a misidentified type species, to use its Plenary Powers (a) to set aside all selections of type species for the genus *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867, made prior to the proposed decision, and (b), having done so, to designate *Liparoceras bronni* Spath, 1938, to be the type species of the foregoing genus;
- (2) to place the generic name *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867 (type species, as proposed in (1) above to be designated under the Plenary Powers: *Liparoceras bronni* Spath, 1938) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* (gender of generic name: neuter);
- (3) to place the trivial name *bronni* Spath, 1938, as published in the binominal combination *Liparoceras bronni*, on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*.

References :

- Bronn, H. G., 1838. *Lethea geognostica* (ed. 2), Stuttgart
- Bronn, H. G., 1851, *ibid.* (ed. 3)

- Buckman, S. S., 1911. *Yorkshire Type Ammonites*, 1
- Hyatt, A., 1867. "Fossil Cephalopods in the Museum of Comparative Zoology". *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool.* 1 (No. 5) : 83
- Reinecke, J. C. M., 1818. *Maris protogaei Nautilus et Argonautas . . . descripsit . . . J. C. M. Reinecke*
- Sowerby, J., 1817. *Mineral Conchology*, 2 : 161 (*Ammonites henleyi*), 183 (*Nautilus striatus*)
- Spath, L. F., 1938. "Catalogue of the Ammonites of the Liassic family *Liparoceratidae*". Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.), London
- Zieten, C. H. von, 1830, *Die Versteinerungen Württembergs* : pl. v, fig. 6

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. *Registration of the present application* : On the receipt of Dr. Arkell's application, the question of the species to be accepted as the type species of the genus *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 507.

3. *Publication of the present application* : The present application was sent to the printer in March 1951 and was published on 4th May 1951 in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Arkell, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 220—222).

4. *Issue of Public Notices* : Under the revised arrangements approved by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 4th May 1951, both in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, the Part in which Dr. Arkell's application was published, and also to the other prescribed serial

publications. In addition, Public Notice was given to certain palaeontological serial publications in Europe and America. The publication of these Notices elicited no objection to the action proposed.

5. *Support received from Dr. D. T. Donovan (University of Bristol, Department of Geology, Bristol)*: On 28th May 1951, Dr. D. T. Donovan (*University of Bristol, Department of Geology, Bristol*) addressed a letter to the Commission commenting upon a number of applications, including the present one. The following is an extract from the foregoing letter of the passage in which Dr. Donovan indicated his support for the present application (Donovan, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 335—336) :—

I write to comment on certain of the applications submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by Dr. W. J. Arkell and published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, vol. 2, Parts 6/8.

I have been specialising in Liassic Ammonites for several years and have just completed an account of certain of them, while I am preparing revisions of two old monographs, namely Thomas Wright's "Monograph on the Lias Ammonites of the British Islands" and Pierre Reynes' "Monographie des Ammonites". Consequently, I am directly concerned with the effects of some of Dr. Arkell's proposals.

Page 220. *Type species of Liparoceras Hyatt, 1867 (Z.N.(S.) 507)*

I agree with Dr. Arkell's proposals for the type species of this genus.

6. *Communication received from the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America*: On 9th April 1952 there was received a large number of letters commenting on various applications previously published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* from Professor G. Winston Sinclair (then of the *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*), Chairman of the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America. Included among these was a letter reporting that the members of the Committee were equally divided for and against the present application. The foregoing letter was dated 18th February 1952, and its late receipt was apparently due to a decision to defer the despatch to the

Commission of the letters containing comments by members of the Joint Committee until all the letters in question had been prepared. By the date on which this letter was received the Prescribed Period of Public Notice had expired and the Voting Paper (V.P.(52)27) relating to the present case had been prepared. It was therefore impossible to include in that Voting Paper a reference to Professor Sinclair's letter, but, when the Voting Paper was despatched (24th April), a supplementary sheet containing the particulars furnished by Professor Sinclair was issued to the Members of the Commission, who were thus placed in possession of the views of the Joint Committee at the same time that they received the Voting Paper relating to the present case. The following is the text of Professor Sinclair's letter :—

The Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America has considered this subject, and I wish to inform you that, being polled, they voted : To support the petition (five) : (1) Katherine V. W. Palmer ; (2) J. Marvin Weller ; (3) Bryan Patterson ; (4) Bobb Schaeffer ; (5) John B. Reeside, Jr. To oppose the petition (five) : (1) Don L. Frizzell ; (2) Siemon W. Muller ; (3) A. Myra Keen ; (4) G. Winston Sinclair ; (5) John W. Wells.

III.—THE DECISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

7. *Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(52)27* : On 24th April 1952, a Voting Paper (V.P.(52)27) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, the proposal " relating to the the name *Liparoceras* Hyatt, 1867, as specified in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 6 on page 221 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [*i.e.*, in paragraph 6 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

8. *The Prescribed Voting Period* : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 24th July 1952.

9. *Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)27* : The state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)27 at the close of the Prescribed Voting Period was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following sixteen (16) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received)* :

Calman ; Hering ; Dymond ; Esaki ; do Amaral ; Hankó ; Bonnet ; Lemche ; Vokes ; Cabrera ; Pearson ; Bradley ; Boschma ; Mertens ; Hemming ; Riley ;

(b) *A Negative Vote had been given by one (1) Commissioner* :

Stoll ;

(c) *Voting Paper not returned, one (1)* :

Jaczewski.

10. *Declaration of Result of Vote* : On 25th July 1952, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(52)27, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 9 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

11. On 22nd March 1954 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(52) 27.

12. The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

bronni, *Liparoceras*, Spath, 1938, *Cat. Ammon. Liass. Fam. Liparocerat.* : 43
Liparoceras Hyatt, 1867, *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool.* 1 (No. 5) : 83

13. At the time of the adoption of the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression "trivial name" and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word "trivial" appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression "specific name" was substituted for the expression "trivial name" and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

14. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

15. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and Eight (308) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twenty-Second day of March, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Four.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING